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IV.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE horrors of the Charleston earthquake are most vividly described in E. P. Roe's latest novel, "The Earth Trembled."* The story from beginning to end is filled with interest, and gives the reader a clear appreciation of the feelings existing in some of the old families of the South, toward the North, at the present day. The insight into the negro character is also excellent. Perhaps Mara, the heroine, in her intense loyalty to her parents, both victims of the war, is a trifle overdrawn, but the charming manner in which the book closes compensates for that, and on the whole it is a most attractive work.

Mr. Stockton possesses the rare faculty of inspiring a deep personal interest in his characters, and in no other creations has he had better success in this particular than in his study of these notable and optimistic housewives, Mrs. Lecks and Mrs. Alesbine, unless we except the immortal "Pomona," of Rudder Grange fame. A sequel to the adventures of these feminine Cheeryble brothers was inevitable, and although "The Dusantes"† lacks the fresh touches of its predecessor, and has the appearance of being executed when its author had lost something of his original interest in his heroines, it is a delightfully humorous creation, and will be appreciated by all mirth-loving readers. No one but Mr. Stockton could have contrived the meeting with the Dusantes on the snow-capped California mountain, and the glorious toboggan slide from the summit to the green vales below. The reader shares the keen excitement of the ride, and draws a long breath when it is all over and the precious ginger jar is found in good condition.

"A Critical History of Sunday Legislation," by Dr. Lewis,‡ has a introductory chapter on the origin and philosophy of laws pertaining to the observance of the Sabbath. The work is mainly compilation rather than an original dissertation, and therefore does not call for critical analysis. The author's aim is to show that, from the earliest times, legislation concerning the Sabbath has been based upon religion, and he fortifies his position by profuse illustrations from the history of Sabbath laws in Rome, the British Isles, and America. The legislative decrees in our own states and territories are given in full, and will be new to many readers. The work is ably edited, and indicates extended and thoughtful research.

Professor Cossa's able treatise§ on the principles and methods of taxation, which has already been translated into the German, Swedish, Russian, Polish, and Spanish languages, has lately been introduced to English speaking readers by Mr. Horace White. The work of the translator is sufficiently complimented by the statement that, but for the preface, the reader would hardly discover the fact that the theme was originally written in the Italian language. The basal principles of finance are set forth in a clear, succinct, yet remarkably comprehensive manner. The systematic arrangement of the subdivisions of the subject facilitates the student's comprehension and is occasionally pushed to far. No attempt is made to settle the vexed question of protection versus free trade, nor does the author discuss custom duties except in their fiscal aspect. He keeps well to his

* "The Earth Trembled." By Edward P. Roe. Dodd, Mead & Co.

† "The Dusantes." By Frank R. Stockton. The Century Company.

‡ "A Critical History of Sunday Legislation from 321 to 1883." By A. H. Lewis, D.D. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

§ "Taxation; Its Principles and Methods." Translated from the "Scienza Delle Finanze," of Dr. Luigi Cossa, Professor in the University of Pavia, Italy, with an introduction and notes by Horace White. Together with a compilation of the state tax systems of New York and Pennsylvania. New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

plan of presenting general principles, and carefully avoids all side issues. To the student of political economy, the book will be of more than ordinary value for reference, and those whose ideas of public revenue and expenditure of taxes and imposts are crude or chaotic have an excellent opportunity to become wise in these matters, whose interest is constantly increasing. The bibliography of the science of finance is remarkably comprehensive, including works in the German, French, Italian, Spanish, Polish, Russian and Greek languages. Readers in the Eastern States of America will find interesting matter in the appendix, which includes accounts of the existing tax systems of New York state and city, and of Pennsylvania, together with a brief summary of the Pennsylvania Tax Commission bill, which failed to become a law through the inadvertent omission of the signature of the President, pro tempore, of the Senate. The revenues of these States for the year 1887 are also given.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

T. Y. Crowell & Co.

- Ninety-three. Victor Hugo. Translated from the French by Helen B. Dole. 2 vols.
 The Toilers of the Sea. Victor Hugo. Translated from the French by Isabel F. Hapgood. 2 vols.
 Notre Dame de Paris. Victor Hugo. Translated from the French by Isabel F. Hapgood. 2 vols.

Charles Scribner's Sons.

- History of the Christian Church. Philip Schaff, Professor of Church History in the Union Theological Seminary, New York. Vol. VI. Modern Christianity—The German Reformation, A.D. 1517-1530.
 Around the World on a Bicycle. Vol. II. From Teheran to Yokohama. Thomas Stevens. Illustrated.

Cassell & Company

- Principles of the Economic Philosophy of Society, Government and Industry. Van Buren Deanslow, LL.D.

D. Appleton & Co.

- The Origin of Floral Structures. Rev. George Henslow.
 The Mystery of the Ocean Star. A collection of Maritime Sketches. W. Clark Russell.
 The Eldest Lady. George MacDonald.
 Seven Conventions. A. W. Clason.
 A History of the United States and Its People. For the use of Schools. Edward Eggleston.

G. P. Putnam's Sons.

- The Federalist. A Commentary on the Constitution of the United States. A Collection of Essays. Reprinted from the Original Text of Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison. Edited by Henry Cabot Lodge.
 The President's Message, 1887. With annotations by R. R. Bowker.
 The President's Message, 1887. With illustrations by Thomas Nast.

Worthington Company.

- Studies in Criticism. Florence Trail.

Dodd, Mead & Company.

- Remember the Alamo. Amelia E. Barr.

Laird & Lee, Chicago.

- God Reigns. Lay Sermons by Edward Reynolds Roe, M.D.

Ticknor & Company.

- A History of Presidential Elections. Edward Stanwood. Second edition, revised.

Jordan, Marsh & Company.

- Jack in the Rush. Robert Grant.

J. B. Lippincott Company.

- Book of Day Dreams. Charles Leonard Moore.